



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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SACHI A. HAMAI
Interim Chief Executive Officer

August 19, 2015

To: Mayor Michael D. Antonovich
Supervisor Hilda Soils
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
Supervisor Don Knabe

From: Sachi Hamai 
Interim Chief Executive Officer

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Second District

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STATUS UPDATE – MY BROTHER’S KEEPER COMMUNITY CHALLENGE (ITEM NO. 53-C OF APRIL 14, 2015)

On April 14, 2015, the Board of Supervisors approved a motion to implement the My Brother’s Keeper (MBK) Community Challenge (Challenge) in Los Angeles County. The Board instructed the Chief Executive Office (CEO) to:

1. Accept the President’s Challenge and notify the White House that Los Angeles County will participate in the MBK Challenge to help ensure that a greater number of our young people are positioned to succeed;
2. Convene a Local Action Summit including government stakeholders and external partners such as university presidents, student and youth groups, workforce development programs, business leaders, local education agencies, philanthropic entities, youth advocacy groups and faith based organizations; and
3. Designate a working group to conduct a policy review and form recommendations for action with targeted outcomes to help eliminate opportunity gaps and barriers facing youth in Los Angeles County, including boys and young men of color, and then return to the Board for direction, within 120 days of accepting the President’s Challenge, with a plan of action including next steps, and a timetable for review.

“To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service”

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Overview

The President of the United States launched the My Brother's Keeper Community Challenge (Challenge) in February 2014, calling upon cities and counties to make a commitment to improving outcomes for boys and young men of color. The Challenge outlines six goals areas around education, employment, and safety. Six cities within Los Angeles County have already accepted the Challenge (Claremont, Compton, Culver City, Los Angeles, Hawthorne, and Long Beach).

On April 14, 2015, the Board directed the County to accept the President's Challenge. The CEO sent a letter to the White House on April 16, 2015, to officially accept the Challenge. In the letter, the County affirmed its commitment to implementing strategies aimed at ensuring that a greater number of boys and young men of color are positioned to succeed. The County agreed to hold an Action Summit (Summit) to develop recommendations for action with targeted outcomes to help eliminate opportunity gaps and barriers facing youth in the County.

MBK Work Group

In May the CEO-Service Integration Branch convened the first meeting of the County's MBK Work Group. Membership of the MBK Work Group currently consists of the following 19 departments and non-County partners:

CEO	CSS	DA	DCBA
DCFS	DHR	DMH	DPH
DPSS	LACOE	LAHSA	LASD
Parks	Probation	Public Defender	Public Library
First 5 LA *	LA Universal Preschool (LAUP)*	Policy Roundtable for Child Care	

*First 5 LA, LAUP joined the Work Group on July 15th.

The MBK Work Group has since continued to meet on a weekly basis. In preparation for the Local Action Summit, the Group's accomplishments to date include:

1. Met with local MBK cities to discuss lessons learned, best practices that emerged from their Summits, and opportunities to build on existing efforts.
2. Conferred with key leaders of universities, community colleges, foundations, youth organizations, business leaders, and other regional stakeholders regarding the County's regional MBK efforts and potential opportunities to collaborate.
3. Compiled environmental scans of:
 - 120 County programs and resources serving boys and young men;

- 90 County-State and -Federal legislative policies; and
 - 35 California State University programs and resources that align with and support the MBK Goals.
4. Collected and reviewed data from a variety of academic sources to frame the work for the Work Group and the Summit.
 5. Created an invitation list for the VIP Reception and Action Summit based on the participants' alignment with the MBK Goals and other criteria.
 6. Developed an Action Summit Agenda to facilitate the formation of actionable recommendations during the Summit with input from the Community Endowment and technical assistance from PolicyLink (national technical assistance provider for MBK).
 7. Developed sample recommendations for the MBK goal areas to facilitate effective discussions and collaborations at the Summit.

MBK VIP Reception and MBK Action Summit

To achieve the directives identified in the Board Motion, the County will convene an MBK VIP Reception on the evening of September 9, 2015, and an Action Summit on September 10, 2015.

The MBK Reception will allow VIPs, such as White House representatives, Federal, State, and local elected officials, County Department Heads, MBK-Alliance members, foundations, and other key community leaders the opportunity to demonstrate their commitment and support of the MBK Challenge for Los Angeles County. Over 100 VIP guests will be invited to attend the VIP Reception.

Additionally, over 150 regional stakeholders, including local MBK cities, school districts, police departments, colleges, businesses, foundations, and other community leaders, are invited to participate in the Action Summit. The Action Summit will focus on developing actionable recommendations and policies for improving the lives of boys and young men of color in Los Angeles County.

The CEO is requesting an extension of an additional 60 days to hold the Summit and report back to the Board on the results of the Work Group's analysis, policy review, and Summit recommendations. The report would be submitted to the Board on October 13, 2015.

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Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or need additional information, or your staff may contact Cheri Thomas at (213) 974-4603, or via email at: cthomas@ceo.lacounty.gov.

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CP:KS:km

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